

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 OMB-01 /058 W

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O 240855Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1882

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 10115

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, JA (MIKI, TAKEO)

SUBJ: MIKI VISIT -- PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS TO FOREIGN  
CORRESPONDENTS

1. PRIMIN MIKI GRANTED GROUP "PRE-DEPARTURE" INTERVIEW TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS AT HIS OFFICIAL RESIDENCE JULY 23. WE OBTAINED ACCESS TO ROUGH TAPE TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW FROM NEWSWEEK'S BERNARD KRISHER, WHO ALONG WITH OTHER CORRESPONDENTS WILL BE FILING STORIES BASED ON MIKI'S REMARKS. FACT THAT WE HAVE SEEN THIS TRANSCRIPT SHOULD BE HELD CLOSELY, BUT WE THINK MIKI'S OPENING REMARKS IN PARTICULAR CONVEY FIRST-HAND IMPRESSION OF MIKI'S FOCUS AND PERSONAL ATTITUDE TOWARD VISIT AND MIGHT BE OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH DEPARTMENT'S PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT. Q AND A'S CONTAINED NOTHING NEW AND ARE OMITTED FROM FOLLOWING TRANSCRIPT.

QUOTE I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THIS MEETING AS INFORMAL, OFF THE CUFF AS POSSIBLE, INSTEAD OF HAVING A VERY FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE. OF COURSE, I AM GOING TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD VERY SHORTLY, AND I DON'T THINK IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR US TO HAVE THE SAME KIND OF TALK HERE THIS AFTERNOON WITH YOU. I THEREFORE HOPE YOU WILL PLEASE BEAR WITH ME IF I AM UNABLE TO DELVE INTO VERY SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS.  
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IT IS HARLY NECESSARY FOR ME TO POINT OUT THAT

I ATTACH VERY MUCH IMPORTANCE TO MY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION TO HAVING THE PLEASURE OF MEETING HIM ONCE AGAIN IN WASHINGTON THIS TIME. YOU MIGHT JUST MENTION MY MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT FORD ARE CHARACTERIZED BY SEVERAL FACTORS, AND I SHOULD LIKE TO ENUMERATE WHAT I CONSIDER TO BE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MY MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT FORD BY WAY OF GIVING YOU SOME BACKGROUND IN TERMS OF THE IMPORTANCE THAT I ATTACH TO THE MEETINGS. IN THE FIRST PLACE, THIS FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD IS GOING TO BE THE FIRST MEETING WITH HIM IN MY CAPACITY AS PRIME MINISTER AND HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IN JANUARY LAST YEAR, IN 1974, I HAD THE DISTINCT PLEASURE OF MEETING THEN-VICE PRESIDENT FORD IN HIS OFFICE, AND I WAS AT THAT TIME HIS COUNTERPART BECAUSE I WAS DEPT. PRIME MINISTER. THEREFORE, SINCE THIS MEETING IS GOING TO BE THE FIRST TOP-LEVEL MEETING I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MYSELF AND PRESIDENT FORD. SINCE I AM GOING TO BE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, I AM SURE THAT THIS FORTHCOMING MEETING WILL NOT BE THE LAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD, BUT I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO SEE THAT OUR FORTHCOMING MEETING WILL CULMINATE IN OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS IN VERY HUMAN AND HUMANE TERMS. THE SECOND CHARACTERISTIC, AS I SAID, IS THAT THERE ARE NOT ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE SOLUTION. OF COURSE, WHEN I WAS FOREIGN MINISTER I VISITED YOUR SHORES MANY A TIME WITH SOME IMMEDIATE ISSUES TO BE ATTENDED TO, BUT THIS TIME WE DO NOT HAVE ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN US. AND WHEN WE HAVE CONCRETE ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED, MEETINGS NECESSARILY ARE RESTRICTED BY THE EXISTENCE OF THESE CONCRETE ISSUES, BUT THIS TIME SUCH IS NOT THE CASE. AND THEREFORE, I WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT MY MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT FORD NOT ONLY IN REGARD TO THE BILATERAL OR BINATIONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE US ACROSS THE PACIFIC, BUT PERHAPS EQUALLY IMPORTANTLY DISCUSSING THE U.S. JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP

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IN VERY GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES. THIS, I THINK IS THE SECOND CHARACTERISTIC OF THE FORTHCOMING MEETING. THE THIRD CHARACTERISTIC IN MY JUDGEMENT IS THAT THIS MEETING IS TO BE HELD AT A TIME WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN SITUATION IS IN A STATE OF (INAUDIBLE) AND AGAIN IN MY JUDGEMENT I DO NOT NECESSARILY SUBSCRIBE TO THE NOTION THAT THE COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA ARE TRYING TO (PULL AWAY?) FROM THE UNITED STATES.

I THINK THAT THE SE ASIAN COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND FOR THIS REASON I THINK OUR MEETING THIS TIME WILL BE IMPORTANT. THE FOURTH CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR MEETING IS THAT THIS MEETING IS BEING CONVENED AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE HEARING INCREASINGLY ABOUT THE TENSION IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE FALL OF VIETNAM. AND IT IS, OF COURSE, IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOULD ADDRESS OURSELVES TO THE EVENTUALITY OF SOMETHING VERY SERIOUS TAKING PLACE IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA. BUT IN MY JUDGEMENT FIRST AND FOREMOST PRIORITY OR EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED UPON THE WAYS AND MEANS OF PREVENTING THAT KIND OF EVENTUALITY FROM TAKING PLACE IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA. AND I AM SURE THAT THIS FEELING OR OUR GOVERNMENT IS SHARED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. AND IN THIS CONTEXT I THINK THIS FORTHCOMING MEETING IS NO LESS IMPORTANT.

IN THE FIFTH PLACE, AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE NEED FOR COORDINATION OF POLICIES OF PRODUCING COUNTRIES OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND CONSUMING NATIONS OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS IS VERY GREAT INDEED. BY THE SAME TOKEN WE ARE PRESSED FOR THE NEED FOR COORDINATION OF RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE CONSUMING COUNTRIES OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS. AND THIS BACKGROUND I THINK MAKES OUR MEETING ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT.

IN THE SIXTH PLACE, IF I MAY ALLOW MYSELF TO TALK IN A SLIGHTLY PERSONAL VEIN, THIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES IS FOR ME AS PRIME MINISTER A HOME-COMING TRIP, A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY.

CONTINUING TO SPEAK ON A PERSONAL VEIN, IT WAS IN 1929, AND PRESUMABLY SOME OF YOU HAD NOT BEEN BORN YET, WHEN

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ACTION EA-10

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USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 OMB-01 /058 W

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O 240855Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1883

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 TOKYO 10115

I FIRST VISITED THE UNITED STATES. MY FATHER HAD LEFT ME SOME MONEY EVEN WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE AND KICKING WITH WHICH TO LOOK AT THE WORLD AND WITH THAT MONEY I SET OUT ON A ROUND THE WORLD TRIP, AND I FIRST VISITED THE UNITED STATES AND THEN ON TO EUROPE AND THEN ON TO THE SOVIET UNION. AND IT WAS IN 1929, FROM 1929 TO 1930, AND I COULD HARDLY SLEEP PROPERLY AT NIGHT ON THE BOAT LEST I LET MY PASSPORT BE (STOLEN?). BEFORE I LEFT TOKYO I COULD HARDLY SLEEP PROPERLY LEST I LET MY PASSPORT BE STOLEN. AND IN THOS DAYS IT WAS ONLY VERY FEW JAPANESE PEOPLE WHO COULD AFFORD TO TRAVEL ABOUT THE WORLD. AT THAT TIME I WAS A FRESHMAN STUDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AT MEIJI UNIVERSITY AND THERFORE THE FIRST FOREIGN COUNTRY I EVERY VISITED IN MY LIFE WAS THE UNITED STATES. AND AGAIN FROM 1932 FOR A PERIOD OF 3-4 YEARS I WAS BACK IN THE UNITED STATES. SINCE 40 YEARS OR MORE HAVE LAPSED INTO THE PAST, MY ENGLISH HAS BECOME VERY RUSTY. YET, THE PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY AND OF LIBERTY OF EQUALITY THAT WERE INFILTRATED INTO MY VERY IMPRESSIONABLE YOUNG MIND HAVE REMAINED IMPACTED AND I HAVE BEEN, I THINK, INFLUENCED A GREAT DEAL BY THESE IDEALS. AFTER ALL I WAS AT A VERY IMPRESSIONABLE AGE OF 22 OR SO. AND IN MY JUDGMENT I THINK DECOCRACY BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY IS ON FIRE, AND I HAVE RECENTLY READ MR. RESTON'S ARTICLE, ENTITLED QLTVMX  
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FZRBTTAAJUK#INTEREST

MR. RESTON MATINTAINS THAT THE LEADERS OF THE MAJOR DEMOCRACIES OF THE WORLD ARE CONFRONTED WITH A MULTIPLICITY OF VERY COMPLEX PROBLEMS AND THEY SEEM TO BE OVERWHELMED BY THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEMS THAT THEY FACE. AND WHEN THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN A VERY BIG DILEMMA AS TO WHAT THEY CAN DO IN THE FACE OF THE MOUNTING PROBLEMS AND IN THE INCREASE OF THE EXISTENCE OF VARIOUS INTEREST GROUPS WHOSE INTERESTS ARE AT VARIANCE WITH ONE ANOTHER, THEY SOMETIMES TEND TO LEAN TOWARD ABSORBING THESE COMPLEX PROBLEMS IN A SOMEWHAT AUTOCRATIC OR DICTATORIAL WAY. I CANNOT HELP BUT AGREE WITH THE ANALYSIS OF MR. RESTON IN REGARD TO THE CRISIS OF DEMOCRACY OR DEMOCRACY ON TRIAL, AND I THINK THAT MOST OF THE DEMOCRACIES IN THE WORLD TODAY ARE CONFRONTED WITH A SIMILAR SET OF VERY DIFFERENT PROBLEMS. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO REALIZE AND I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT I AM FIRM IN MY RESOLVE TO DO WHATEVER I CAN DO TO

PERPETUATE THAT KIND OF WESTERN DEMOCRACY THAT HAS  
(INAUDIBLE) IN JAPAN LIKE IN THE U.S. IN THE  
COURSE OF MY EFFORT TO PROTECT IDEALS AND PRINCIPLES OF  
DEMOCRACY, I AS PRIME MINISTER FACE MANY MOUNTING  
PROBLEMS AND I AM SURE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE KIND  
OF DIFFICULTY THAT I FIND MYSELF IN FROM TIME TO TIME IN  
THE MASS MEDIA. BUT AGAIN AT THE RISK OF REPETITION I  
THINK I CAN SAY THAT DEMOCRACY BOTH DOMESTICALLY IN  
JAPAN AND INTERNATIONALLY IS ON TRIAL, AND THEREFORE  
IN THIS CONTEXT I ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANT TO A VERY IN-  
DEPTH AND CANDID DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE  
UNITED STATES AND THE LEADER OF JAPAN, WHO SHARE THE  
FEELING OF DEMOCRACY, EXPLORING THE WAYS AND MEANS OF  
PROTECTING DEMOCRACY.

AND SO, I JUST EXPRESS MY OWN PERSONAL FEELINGS THAT--  
ASIDE FROM MY PERSONAL FEELINGS, OF COURSE, THIS TRIP  
TO THE U.S. IS GOING TO BE A VERY MOVING AND TOUCHING  
TRIP AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, AND SINCE THERE ARE NOT  
ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE  
ATTENTION OR A RESOLUTION, AND SINCE I DO NOT HAVE TO  
BRING BACK ANY SOUVENIRS IN A VERY TANGIBLE FORM TO  
THE JAPANESE PUBLIC, I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO ENGAGE  
IN VERY FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT FORD  
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AND YOUR LADERS CONCERNING U.S. 7.S. - JAPANESE RELATIONS  
IN THE VERY BROAD CONTEXT OF ASIA AND OF THE WHOLE  
WORLD. AN I AM HOPEFUL THAT OUR MEETINGS WILL PROVE  
TO BE MEANINGFUL IN THAT SENSE. END QUOTE.  
SHOESMITH

NOTE BY OC/T: TOKYO 10115/2. #AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION  
TO FOLLOW.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TOKYO10115  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750722/aaaaatxm.tel  
**Line Count:** 259  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIKI VISIT -- PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS  
**TAGS:** OVIP, JA, (MIKI, TAKEO)  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006